

**Hamilton Conservation Commission
Minutes of Meeting of November 4, 2015
Meeting held at Hamilton Senior Center**

Commissioners present:

Richard Luongo, Chair, Virginia Cookson, Bob Cronin, Keith Glidden (arrived at 7:05 p.m.), George Tarr.

Staff present:

Jim Hankin, Conservation Agent

Others present:

Chris Currier, candidate for the Commission
Anne Gero, Open Space Sub-Committee member

Richard Luongo opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and mentioned that the meeting was being recorded. The next Conservation Commission meeting will be held on November 18. Site walk is scheduled for December 12.

Notice of Intent (Public Hearing to be continued to December 16, 2015 at request of Applicant)
470 Essex Street
Construct single family house, septic system and associated activity in No Build and No Disturb Zones

The public hearing is being continued until December 16 so the applicant's attorney can attend. Discussion was on having Jim Hankin inquire with Selectman Shawn Farrell to see if he could attend that meeting. Mr. Hankin will also inquire as to whether or not Town Counsel Donna Brewer can attend that meeting.

Bob Cronin moved to continue the public hearing until December 16, 2015 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall. George Tarr seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Discussion with Anne Gero re: Open Space Sub-Committee statements

Anne Gero spoke to how the Sub-Committee had supplied the Commission with a draft of handout regarding its support of Sagamore Hill project and requirements specified by Town Moderator (i.e., date, warrant number, names/addresses of individuals responsible for it) which will be incorporated. The draft had information about Essex's commitment to the project edited out since no vote has been taken as yet by the Essex CPC. Also, that the handout is the opinion of the Open Space Sub-Committee.

Discussion ensued about how Essex County Greenbelt Association will own the land and maintain property so there will be no ongoing expense for the Town if the Town Meeting votes to grant \$1.75 million as the Town's contribution to the project.

Discussion addressed how the Sagamore Hill project has involved many people including Hamilton's CPC. The Conservation Restriction, to be held by the Commission, takes the development rights off the property. Hamilton's Town boards have voted in favor of the project.

Discussion was on how a small amount of CPA funds can be used for a turf field project, that CPC has been asked to fund many recreation projects and the Sagamore Hill project is the CPC's first open space project.

Virginia Cookson moved to have the Open Space Sub-Committee handout with requirements from Town Moderator available at Town Meeting. Mr. Tarr seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Ms. Gero spoke to the Open Space Sub-Committee's mission statement relative to comments from Mr. Hankin on the Sub-Committee's proposed work to support Greenbelt. Also, that the statement is broad and the Sub-Committee would come back to Commission before moving forward to work on any initiatives. An updated mission statement will be sent to Mr. Hankin and this will be discussed by the Commission at its November 18th meeting.

Recommend Chris Currier to BOS for appointment to the Conservation Commission

Keith Glidden moved to recommend Chris Currier to the Board of Selectmen for appointment to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Tarr seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Discussion

Report on the Commission's finances

Mr. Hankin will meet with Finance staff after fall Town Meeting and report on the Commission's finances at the next meeting.

2015-2016 HWRSD and Audubon Education Proposal

Discussion ensued about how Wenham Conservation Commission has said for 10 years that they do not have the money to pay that community's 31% share for the education proposal. Hamilton funds \$3,634.75 or 69% of the education proposal. The HWRSD students pay fees to make up the difference in the cost of the program that is not supported by Wenham.

Mr. Glidden moved to approve the Audubon Education Proposal. Mr. Cronin seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Vote Minutes for October 21, 2015

Mr. Glidden moved to approve the October 21, 2015 minutes. Mr. Tarr seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Bob Cronin moved to adjourn. Mr. Glidden seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously in favor of the motion. Commission adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Minutes submitted December 2, 2015 by Jane Dooley